



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held March 25, 2008 the Board took the following action:

S-1

J. Tyler McCauley, Auditor-Controller, Dewitt Roberts, Division Chief of Special Projects, Department of the Auditor-Controller, and Dr. Jonathan E. Fielding, Director of Public Health, presented the attached report dated March 3, 2008, relating to the status of the implementation of the 15 recommendations contained in the Auditor-Controller's January 2007 Sewage Spill Report and what further action may be needed.

After discussion, the following statement was entered into the record for Supervisors Knabe and Yaroslavsky:

"Over the last fourteen months, this Board has taken action to protect the public from sewage spills. This Board took decisive action to significantly improve reporting requirements by joining Assembly Member Ted Liu in sponsoring Assembly Bill 800 which leads to not just Countywide improvements, but Statewide.

"In addition, this Board asked the Auditor-Controller's office to come back one year later with a follow-up report, in consultation with the County's Public Health Commission, on the status of implementation. It was to include recommendations for further action needed.

"The Auditor-Controller's one year follow-up report, now public, contains good news:

- County agencies fully implemented their parts of 15 of the 16 recommendations. However, five of these require further action by other jurisdictions;
- The inter-jurisdictional cooperation has been terrific. We particularly wish to commend and thank the Cities of Long Beach, Los Angeles, Pasadena, Culver City and Vernon, the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, California Assembly Member Ted Liu, the State Legislature and the Governor;

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S-1 (Continued)

- Interested community organizations, especially Heal the Bay and Santa Monica Baykeeper, have contributed good ideas, effort and support;
- It is evident that the County's Department of Public Health gave focused, high-priority attention and leadership in repairing the reporting system. Well done; and
- Thanks to these cooperative and conscientious efforts, the spill reporting and response system is now substantially better, meaning the public now gets timely warning and protection from exposure to potentially contaminated water.

"The Auditor-Controller now proposes seven new recommendations to further strengthen the reporting system and to further pursue the 2007 prevention ideas. These recommendations are worthy of our support.

"But the spill data now in hand makes it clear that a more ambitious prevention effort is needed. We would like to see the same inter-jurisdictional cooperation that lead to the significant improvements in reporting now focus on doing all it can to reduce the number and volume of sewage spills originating in Los Angeles County."

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Knabe, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, unanimously carried, the Board took the following actions:

1. Adopted the seven recommendations contained within the Auditor-Controller's attached report dated March 3, 2008;
2. Instructed the Chief Executive Officer to:
  - With the Director of Public Health, the Auditor-Controller and the County Sanitation Districts, work with other sewage system operators, the Los Angeles Water Board and other affected local jurisdictions in organizing a voluntary interagency spill prevention program; and
  - Using the existing reporting system, monitor and analyze reductions over time in the number and magnitude of spills; and
3. Instructed the Auditor-Controller, in consultation with the County's Public Health Commission, to conduct a follow-up review one year from now on all recommendations now open and report back to the Board as a set item at its meeting of March 24, 2009.

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S-1 (Continued)

After further discussion, on motion of Supervisor Yaroslavsky, seconded by Supervisor Knabe, unanimously carried, the Board reconsidered the foregoing motion.

Supervisor Yaroslavsky made a recommendation that quarterly reports be added to Supervisors Knabe and Yaroslavsky's aforementioned recommendation. Supervisor Knabe accepted Supervisor Yaroslavsky's amendment.

On motion of Supervisor Knabe, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, unanimously carried, the Board took the following actions:

1. Adopted the seven recommendations contained within the Auditor-Controller's attached report dated March 3, 2008;
2. Instructed the Chief Executive Officer to:
  - With the Director of Public Health, the Auditor-Controller and the County Sanitation Districts, work with other sewage system operators, the Los Angeles Water Board and other affected local jurisdictions in organizing a voluntary interagency spill prevention program; and
  - Using the existing reporting system, monitor and analyze reductions over time in the number and magnitude of spills; and
3. Instructed the Auditor-Controller to:
  - Provide quarterly reports to the Board; and
  - In consultation with the County's Public Health Commission, conduct a follow-up review one year from now on all recommendations now open and report back to the Board as a set item at its Meeting of March 24, 2009.

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Attachment

Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor  
Chief Executive Officer  
County Counsel  
Auditor-Controller  
Director of Public Health